

BRIEFLY

Former House Speaker Boehner calls Cruz 'Lucifer in the flesh'

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Former House Speaker John Boehner unloaded on Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz during a talk to college students, calling the Texas senator "Lucifer in the flesh."

Speaking at a town hall-style event at Stanford University Wednesday, Boehner called front-runner Donald Trump his "texting buddy," but offered a more graphic response when asked about Cruz.

"Lucifer in the flesh," the former speaker said. "I have Democrat friends and Republican friends. I get along with almost everyone, but I have never worked with a more miserable son of a bitch in my life."

His comments were first reported by Stanford's student newspaper.

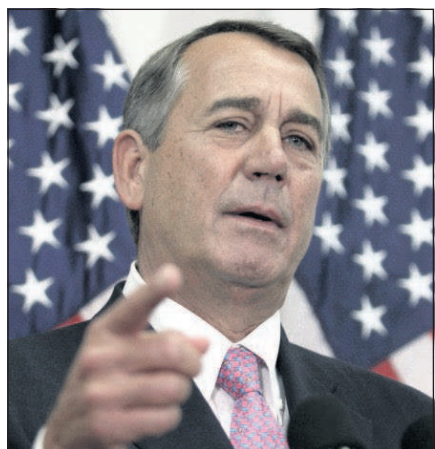
Cruz, campaigning in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Thursday ahead of the state's May 3 primary, responded by saying Boehner was letting his "inner Trump come out" with his remarks. He attempted to turn the criticism into a slam on Trump.

Clinton backers 'feel the Bern' of angry Sanders supporters

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nancy Schumacher says she just wanted to do her civic duty, and so she heeded the call to become a superdelegate for Hillary Clinton. But in the year of the angry voter, not even an administrative assistant from Elk River, Minnesota, can escape the outrage.

"Some of the (phone and email) messages called me names. Some of them called Hillary names. And others said I was a stupid bitch and something bad will happen to me," said Schumacher, a Democratic committee member. "It's kind of hard to take sometimes."

Bernie Sanders defied expectations to turn his long-shot presidential bid into a real threat for the Democratic nomination. Now, as his path to the White House becomes all-but-impossible, some of his supporters are



AP Photo/Lauren Victoria Burke, File

In this Oct. 27, 2015 file photo, then-House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio talks with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington.

lash out at a system they believe was engineered against them from the start.

While Sanders decries a "rigged" economy, some of his backers see signs of corruption everywhere — even in the party their candidate hopes to lead. Some have turned their frustration on superdelegates, the party insiders whose ability to back either candidate give them an outsized role in picking the nominee.

The superdelegates include public officials: governors, former presidents and even Sanders himself. But they also include people like Schumacher, volunteers who've generally stayed behind the scenes.

Oregon bakery files appeal in gay wedding cake case

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon bakery owners who denied service to a same-sex couple are arguing that a state ruling ordering them to pay \$135,000 in damages violates state and federal laws.

The Oregonian reports that bakery owners Aaron and Melissa Klein filed a brief with the Oregon Court of appeals this week arguing the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries violated the Kleins' rights as artists to free speech, their rights as Oregonians to religious freedom and their rights as defendants to a due process.

Damages were awarded in July for emotional suffering caused by Sweet Cakes by Melissa, which three years

ago refused to make a wedding cake for Laurel and Rachel Bowman-Cryer. The bakers said their refusal was prompted by religious beliefs.

Casualties mount from bombardment in Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Airstrikes and artillery killed more than 60 people in the past 24 hours in Aleppo, including dozens at a hospital in a rebel-held neighborhood, as Syria's largest city was turned once again into a major battleground in the civil war, officials said Thursday.

Aid agencies warn that Aleppo is on the brink of a humanitarian disaster with the collapse of a two-month cease-fire and stalled peace talks.

The intensified violence — by far the worst since the partial cease-fire began — coincides with reports of a military buildup outside Aleppo that many fear is a prelude for a government attempt to force a complete siege of the city's neighborhoods.

Battle-hardened residents were shocked by the bloodshed. Opposition activists accused the government of carpet-bombing rebel-controlled areas, while Syrian state media said more than 1,000 mortar rounds and rockets were fired at government-held districts, killing 22 people.

Israel treads carefully with claim to Golan

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has sparked a new diplomatic brushfire by declaring that the Golan Heights, seized from Syria in the 1967 Mideast war, is and should remain "under Israel's sovereignty permanently."

But following tough international criticism, Israeli officials said Netanyahu's statements had been misconstrued and that a 1981 decision to apply Israeli law to the strategic plateau fell short of annexation.

The debate offers a window into a more nuanced Israeli perspective that, despite statements from the country's hard-line political leadership, continues to leave the door open, just barely, to a peace deal when Syria's civil war finally winds down.

Sanders, Kasich visit Oregon

PORTLAND (AP) — Republican John Kasich and Democrat Bernie Sanders rolled through Oregon on Thursday, hoping to keep their ailing campaigns alive with rallies the state rarely sees from presidential hopefuls ahead of its mid-spring primary.

In this year's presidential race when every delegate counts, Oregon's May 17 primary — where 74 Democratic delegates and 28 Republican delegates are up for grabs — has made national headlines as a possible game-changer in determining the parties' nominees.

But after front-runners Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton gained almost insurmountable leads earlier this week, Kasich and Sanders arrived in Oregon with grim chances of changing course.

Still, the parties' two underdogs told Oregonians they refused to give up, especially Kasich.

At a town hall near downtown Portland, one of two in Oregon that day, the Ohio governor told roughly 400 supporters that he decided to stick it out after talking to his wife the night before.

"I said, 'What do you think sweetie? I'm inclined to keep going.' And she looked at me and she said simple words ... 'The people need a choice, and if you don't give them a

choice, who will?'" Kasich said.

Kasich began courting voters in Oregon and New Mexico this week as part of a trade with rival Ted Cruz for Indiana, an unusual strategy that so far hasn't been fruitful in derailing Trump's lead.

Also on Thursday, the first-ever public Republican poll for Oregon showed Trump with a double-digit lead while Kasich trailed in last place, according to Portland-based Hoffman Research Group.

The outlook is also bleak for Sanders, even in Oregon, where his overwhelming popularity among the state's progressive electorate is at odds with the handful of super delegates, such as Gov. Kate Brown, who have already endorsed rival Clinton.

But the Vermont senator also gave no sign of surrender during a rally earlier that day in Springfield, about 100 miles south of Portland — marking his third Oregon visit.

Speaking to many young supporters from the nearby hometowns of Oregon's two major public universities, Sanders pointed out the primaries and caucuses he's won thus far. He repeated campaign themes that align with the views of many Oregon progressives, such as correcting income inequality through higher taxes on the rich.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

Large advertisement for John L. Ballard, 'ELECT JOHN L. BALLARD FOR CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE'. Includes a photo of Ballard and the text 'Paid for by Committee to Elect John L. Ballard Circuit Court Judge'.

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